

## Section 14

### of the Continuing Authorities Program

### Emergency Streambank Erosion Protection for Public Facilities

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#### **At a Glance:**

- \$1.5 million Federal per-project limit.
- First \$100,000 of study is 100% Federal cost. Remainder of the study is cost-shared 50% Federal, 50% non-Federal
- Plans and Specifications, and Construction are cost-shared 65% Federal and 35% Non-Federal.

**The Authority.** Section 14 of the Continuing Authorities Program was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1946. It allows the Corps of Engineers to study, design and construct bank protection works in the interest of protecting public facilities (churches, roads, bridges, known cultural sites, public buildings, utilities, etc.). Erosion caused by the design or operation of the facility itself, by inadequate drainage, or by lack of reasonable maintenance is not eligible. In addition, repair of the facility itself is excluded.

**The Process.** A Section 14 project has two phases: Feasibility, and Design and Implementation (DI).

During the Feasibility phase, a study is conducted to determine if there is a Federal interest in participating in a project. This is determined by evaluating different alternatives – comparing their costs and benefits and identifying any potential environmental affects. If it is determined that there is a Federal interest in building the project. (i.e. there is a plan with more benefits than costs and is environmentally acceptable), the study will recommend proceeding to the DI phase. The first \$100,000 of the phase is provided by the Federal government. If the phase cost

exceeds \$100,000, all additional costs must be cost-shared 50% Federal and 50% non-Federal.

During the DI phase, the project is designed and constructed. This phase is cost-shared 65% Federal and 35% non-Federal. At least 5% of the total cost must be contributed in cash but the remainder can be credit for any project lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations, and disposal sites that the sponsor must provide as items of local cooperation. Should those costs exceed 35% of the total cost, the sponsor must still provide these items in addition to the 5% cash. In addition, the sponsor must agree to operate and maintain the project after completion of construction.

**How to Request a Study.** If you think you have an erosion problem that may fit within the Section 14 guidelines, please contact the St. Louis District at the phone number below. Our Continuing Authorities Program Manager will speak with you and, if warranted, will visit your problem area to ascertain whether or not your problem fits within our authority. If it does, a potential non-Federal sponsor will need to submit a letter requesting that a study be initiated.

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